

Fund your Future

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Looking forward to college but not sure how you're going to pay for it? You're not alone. With the high cost of education today, more and more students are depending on financial aid to help pay for college or vocational training.

Your first option should be grants, scholarships, employment opportunities, and other financial aid that doesn't have to be repaid. If you must borrow to help pay for college, keep in mind student loans must be repaid, with interest.

In 1997, we introduced our nonprofit student loan services corporation **EDFUND**—A Service of the California Student Aid Commission. So now you have two places to turn to for financial aid. For Cal Grants, Graduate Fellowships, and other special programs, it's the California Student Aid Commission; for student loans, it's **EDFUND**. Both are just a phone call away. You can also visit us on the web or see your financial aid advisor.

On the pages ahead, you'll learn about the major financial aid programs and how to apply for them. We're committed to helping you get the education you want and wish you every success in achieving your goals.

Jon D. Shaver, Executive Director,
California Student Aid Commission
President and CEO, **EDFUND**



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Do I Qualify?.....	2
How Is My Eligibility For Financial Aid Determined?.....	4
How Do I Apply?.....	4
What Programs Does California Offer?	8
What About Federal Financial Aid?.....	12
What Does It Mean To Accept A Student Loan?.....	15
What Financial Aid Does My School Offer?.....	16
What Benefits Are There For Special Groups?.....	18
What About Other Options?	20
Money Management Tips	22
Major Financial Aid Programs At A Glance	24
What Are My Rights And Responsibilities?.....	25
Where Do I Go For More Information?.....	26
Financial Aid Glossary	28
Important Addresses, Numbers, And Web Sites	29

[COLLEGE]

in this workbook usually refers to a college, university, graduate or professional school, vocational or technical school, or any other educational institution beyond high school.

Don't disqualify yourself!

If you think you'll need financial help, apply for it. For more information, contact your counseling or financial aid office, or call:

- ▶ **916-526-7590** the California Student Aid Commission with questions about Cal Grants, Graduate Fellowships, and other state financial aid programs.
- ▶ **916-526-7900** EDFUND for information on student loans.
- ▶ **1-800-4-FED-AID** (that's 1-800-433-3243) for information on Pell Grants, other federal grants and loans, and the FAFSA.

Looking ahead to college?

Whatever school you choose, you'll probably need help paying the costs, from tuition and fees to books and living expenses.

First, you should look into grants, scholarships, and other financial aid that doesn't have to be repaid. With work-study, arranged through your financial aid office, you can earn money for college. A student loan can also help you achieve your goal.

Financial aid is available from a variety of sources, including the state and federal government, colleges, and private sources.

DO I QUALIFY?

Most financial aid is awarded based on your financial need. That is, the difference between what it will cost you to attend a particular college, known as your student budget, and what you and your family are expected to pay toward those costs, known as your expected family contribution, or EFC. To qualify, you first must have your financial aid eligibility determined.

Not all financial aid is based on need. For example, unsubsidized Stafford loans are available for all qualified students at participating schools, regardless of their income.

You begin by completing the 1998-99 Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. Work with the financial aid office at each college you're considering to be sure you meet all application requirements and deadlines. Your college may also require you to complete a supplemental application. (See page 4 "How Do I Apply.")

What your parents are expected to contribute

The information you provide on your FAFSA is used to estimate the amount of money that you and your parents can reasonably contribute toward your education.

For dependent students, these things are considered:

- ▶ your income and your parents' income.
- ▶ family assets including savings, stocks and bonds, real estate investments, farm or business ownership, and trusts (equity in a family's primary residence or family farm, and retirement funds are excluded).
- ▶ parents' age and need for retirement income.
- ▶ number of children and other dependents in the family household.
- ▶ number of family members in college.

Within a few weeks after filing your FAFSA, you'll receive an estimate of your expected family contribution, listed at the top of your Student Aid Report, or SAR. Your school's financial aid office will review this initial estimate and determine your eligibility for aid. Be sure to review your SAR carefully and return the form immediately if you need to make corrections.

To qualify for campus-based aid programs, you may need to provide additional information or a supplemental financial aid application to the school.

Your contribution

For Cal Grants and most school-based financial aid, you're expected to pay for some of your own college costs. Your earnings and reported assets are considered in calculating your expected family contribution. If you or your parents can't meet your expected family contribution, or if your finances change substantially, contact your financial aid office. Be prepared to provide supporting documents.

Dependent or independent?

Whether you're a dependent or independent student is key to establishing your eligibility for financial aid and determining the type and amount of aid you may receive. If you're dependent, your parents' ability to help out is considered; if you're independent, you'll be evaluated on your own — your parents' income and assets won't be considered for most sources of financial aid.

You're an independent student if at least one of these describes you:

- ▶ you were born before January 1, 1975.
- ▶ you're a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- ▶ you're an orphan or ward of the court (or were until age 18).
- ▶ you have legal dependents other than a spouse.
- ▶ you're a graduate or professional student.
- ▶ you're married.
- ▶ you have special circumstances, as documented by a financial aid administrator.

If you're a dependent student, your parents must provide financial information on your FAFSA or it won't be processed. Also, for some scholarships and other financial aid, you'll need to provide your parents' financial information, whether or not you're considered dependent.

The FAFSA:

PAPER OR COMPUTER?

The paper version of the FAFSA is generally available in November at high schools, career centers, libraries, financial aid offices, or by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID. You only need to file one each year. With *FAFSA Express*, you can file using your own computer and modem. For a free copy on diskette, call 1-800-801-0576. Or download *FAFSA Express* from the web at www.ed.gov/money.html. You can also file your application electronically through some schools. Carefully review the FAFSA instructions and provide accurate information. Questions? Contact your financial aid office, the California Student Aid Commission at 916-526-7590, or 1-800-4-FED-AID.

Student budgets

Your student budget, or cost of attendance, includes tuition and fees, books and supplies, housing and food, and personal expenses.

Your student budget will vary depending on whether you live with your parents, on campus, or off campus. To estimate your student budget, the financial aid office determines what it would cost for you to live under each of these circumstances.

If you have small children who require care while you attend school, the final calculation may take into account child care expenses. If you're disabled, let your school know if you have any special expenses.

HOW IS MY ELIGIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL AID DETERMINED?

Once you know your student budget, and your expected family contribution has been established, the college can determine your eligibility for financial aid.

Whether your college costs are high or low, your expected family contribution will stay the same for state and federal aid, but may differ for campus-based funds. Also, you may be eligible for different amounts of aid at different schools.

To find out how much aid you're eligible for, your college will first determine your financial need by subtracting your family's expected contribution from your student budget.

In this example, financial need is calculated for a potential California State University student, living off campus:

	Total Parents' Contribution	\$ 4,500
+	Total Student's Contribution	2,010
=	Expected Family Contribution	\$ 6,510
	Student Budget (CSU)	\$10,910
-	Expected Family Contribution	\$ 6,510
=	Financial Need	\$ 4,400

HOW DO I APPLY?

1 Explore your options In the junior year of high school, or even before, explore all financial aid options from federal, state, and school sources. Find out about private grants and scholarships. Talk with a counselor and ask your parents to check with their employers or labor unions. Look through scholarship, grant, and student aid directories in the library, and check out the web. (For a reference list, see page 26.)

2 Find out what's offered and what's required When applying, find out about each college's financial aid programs and how to apply for them. Requirements, application procedures, and deadlines may vary by school. Out-of-state colleges will have different application processes. Be prepared to supply additional materials directly to the school, such as copies of your family's federal income tax returns.

3 Meet all deadlines The FAFSA, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, is the core application for financial aid and is used nationwide. Some colleges have their own applications and priority deadlines. Don't wait until you've been accepted to a school to apply for financial aid. If you do, you may miss out.

For Cal Grants and Graduate Fellowships, your FAFSA must be filed by March 2, 1998. For Pell Grants and federal student loans, file your FAFSA as early as possible after January 1, 1998 for the 1998-99 school year. Don't file your FAFSA earlier than January 1, 1998. If you do, it'll be returned.

There are no exceptions to these deadlines.

Keep in mind application deadlines for college admission and those for financial aid are usually different. Ask if the deadline is the *postmarked* date or the *received* date. Also, meet the earliest filing deadline for all the colleges you're considering. Check with each college, as each one sets its own deadlines, filing procedures, and policies.

CAL GRANT DEADLINE MARCH 2

Apply for Cal Grants by the March 2, 1998 postmark deadline. Along with submitting your FAFSA to the federal processor by March 2, you must send a GPA Verification Form to the California Student Aid Commission by March 2. Contact your counseling or financial aid office for information and a GPA Verification Form. Be sure to read the GPA Verification Form even if your school sends your GPA for you. The form has important information on it. To be considered for California financial aid, at least one of the schools you list on your FAFSA must be in California.

Missed the March 2 Deadline?

Even if you missed the March 2 deadline for Cal Grants and Graduate Fellowships, you still can apply for a Pell Grant, student loan, campus-based financial aid, and private grants and scholarships.

File your completed FAFSA with the federal processor. Do not send any correspondence, tax forms, or other materials with your FAFSA as they will be tossed out and delay processing. Correspondence explaining your family's special circumstances should be sent to the financial aid offices of the colleges you're considering. Contact each college for the correct procedure.

When mailing your FAFSA, be sure to get a Certificate of Mailing from the post office as evidence it was sent on time.

4 Review your SAR Within four weeks after filing your FAFSA, you'll receive a Student Aid Report, or SAR. The SAR will list your expected family contribution – the amount used to determine your eligibility for federal and state financial aid. (Look for the number next to the "EFC.") The SAR will also tell you whether you're tentatively eligible for a Pell Grant. Immediately review your SAR for accuracy. Follow any instructions listed, especially if you need to change or correct information. Some colleges process the SAR electronically; others may ask you to send them a copy.

If you don't receive your SAR within four weeks, or if you need another copy, call 319-337-5665 or write to the Federal Student Aid Information Center, P.O. Box 84, Washington, D.C. 20044.

The federal processor will forward your SAR information to a second processor for Pell Grant evaluation, to the California Student Aid Commission, and to the colleges (up to six) you list. If you want your SAR sent to additional colleges, call 319-337-5665, or send a copy yourself.

5 Research other grants and scholarships Check the requirements and deadlines for private scholarships and grants at each school when applying. You may need to write letters, essays, or be interviewed as part of the application process.

6 Look into federal student loans For most federal loans, you first must file the FAFSA. You'll also have to complete a separate application and promissory note for each loan at most colleges. Application requirements vary for the different student loans and participation in the loan programs varies from one school to the next. Complete the required forms and return them to your college for certification. You or your college may have to forward the certified loan application to a lender. Financial aid offices have a list of banks, savings and loans, and credit unions that make federal student loans, along with the lender's current policies. (For more on federal loans and a list of lenders, see pages 13 and 14.) All federal loans must be repaid, usually with interest. Give yourself some credit – borrow smart.

SAR Tips

1. Always list the California college you'll most likely attend first on your SAR.
2. If you're writing in new schools, and you're still considering a California four-year college or university, list that school first on your SAR, with community colleges further down the list.
3. If you don't include a California school in the college release section, you won't be considered for a Cal Grant or Graduate Fellowship.
4. Be sure to use the accurate U.S. Department of Education school codes (available from your financial aid office), and the complete name and address of the schools you list.

FAFSA Tips

Every year thousands of students are denied financial aid because their applications are incomplete or simply filed too late. Here are 15 tips to help you and your family successfully complete the FAFSA.

- 1 Study California's *Financial Aid Workbook for Students*. Know how the financial aid process works and your options.
- 2 Don't wait until the last minute to complete financial aid application materials. An early start will leave time to collect information, ask questions, and solve problems.
- 3 Use a pen with black ink or a #2 pencil as instructed in the FAFSA application materials. Print clearly and neatly. Your FAFSA will be scanned so neatness can mean fewer corrections.
- 4 Be sure to use the 1998-99 FAFSA to apply for an award for the 1998-99 school year. Read all instructions thoroughly. Work carefully through each step.
- 5 Do not use a FAFSA that is torn, crumpled, or stained.
- 6 Write only in the response areas and answer boxes on the form. Fill in the appropriate bubble for each response. Do not write in margins.
- 7 Don't respond with a symbol such as N/A to a question that requires a number. It could invalidate your entire application.
- 8 Set aside at least one full afternoon or evening to work on the application. Assemble the needed materials ahead of time, including:
 - ⊗ the FAFSA and any additional application materials required by the college.
 - ⊗ the GPA Verification Form for Cal Grants and Graduate Fellowships.
 - ⊗ your Social Security number. If you don't have a Social Security number, request one by completing Federal Form SS-5, available at post offices or Social Security Administration branch offices.
 - ⊗ family financial records, including:
 - ➔ 1997 U.S. income tax return (Form 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ, or 1040TDL), with all schedules, completed in January, if possible.
 - ➔ W-2 forms and other records of 1997 earnings and other income.
 - ➔ current bank statements, mortgage information, and business or farm records.
- ➔ records of veterans benefits or Social Security payments.
- 9 Make a list of unanswered questions and before filing the application, be sure each question has been answered. If you still have questions, contact your counseling or financial aid office, the California Student Aid Commission at 916-526-7590, or call 1-800-4-FED-AID.
- 10 Be sure all required information has been provided on the application.
- 11 If there are special circumstances you feel should be considered, send the additional information directly to the financial aid office at each school you're considering. Contact each school first to see when and how to provide the special circumstances information. Be sure to put your name and Social Security number at the top of each page.
- 12 Send the original FAFSA (not a photocopy) by first-class mail in the pre-addressed envelope found in the FAFSA booklet. You can receive a confirmation of the receipt of your FAFSA by completing and putting postage on the confirmation postcard provided with the FAFSA. It's recommended that you get a Certificate of Mailing as proof of meeting the filing deadline. Using a special mailing service could delay processing.
- 13 Make copies of the completed application and additional materials, including financial statements, for your own records.
- 14 Apply for a new Cal Grant or Graduate Fellowship by:
 - ⊗ filing the FAFSA by the March 2, 1998 postmark deadline.
 - ⊗ submitting a completed GPA Verification Form, and test scores for a Graduate Fellowship, to the Commission by the March 2 deadline.
 - ⊗ keeping photocopies of everything.
 - ⊗ obtaining a Certificate of Mailing as evidence everything was sent on time.
- 15 Remember that financial aid can be delayed or forfeited if your application is not completed correctly. If you need help, contact a financial aid counselor, the California Student Aid Commission, or 1-800-4-FED-AID.

7 Evaluate all offers Carefully read all letters and notices you receive from colleges, the federal processor, the California Student Aid Commission, **EDFUND**, and private scholarship organizations. You'll probably be notified about your financial aid eligibility after you've learned if you've been accepted to a college. Respond promptly if more information is requested.

Colleges consider total family contributions and other available resources such as Pell Grants, Cal Grants, veterans benefits, scholarships, and other grants when determining your eligibility for their financial aid programs.

Generally, you'll receive your financial aid when classes begin but your first federal student loan may be delayed 30 days or longer due to program requirements. Ask your college how you'll receive your funds – some schools mail your payments, some post credit to your bank or tuition account, while others expect you to pick up a check.

Private organizations will notify you directly of an award, its requirements, and how you'll receive payment. Remember, outside scholarships are counted as part of the resources available to you for educational expenses.

8 Reapply each year To continue receiving financial aid, you must reapply each year. In most cases, if you applied for federal student aid in 1997-98, you'll receive a 1998-99 Renewal FAFSA at your home address. If you don't receive your Renewal FAFSA by January 15, 1998, complete the regular FAFSA.

[the financial aid PACKAGE]

Your financial aid package may include grants, scholarships, work-study, loans, fee waivers, or other types of assistance. When you apply to more than one college, your financial aid offers often vary. Each college may not be able to meet 100% of your "financial aid eligibility" with student aid. Be sure you understand each offer before accepting it. Questions? Contact your financial aid office. Don't be shy – it's your future.

Most of the information on the Renewal FAFSA will be the same information you listed in 1997-98, plus any corrections you made. On the Renewal FAFSA, write in only information that's changed, such as income or family size, or any areas left blank. Look for bold arrows and questions that don't have an answer. Be sure to review the schools listed on the Renewal FAFSA as well. Contact your school's financial aid office for reapplication information and assistance.

Currently, there is no "renewal" version of FAFSA Express. If you apply using FAFSA Express, you'll have to complete the entire application each year.

If you currently have a Cal Grant, the campus where you'll be attending in 1998-99 will evaluate your renewal eligibility. Be sure to have a copy of your FAFSA information sent to that school.

You can apply for some private scholarships throughout your school years, so you may wish to research them each year.

Average College Costs in California for Academic Year 1997-98

	LIVING AT HOME AND COMMUTING	LIVING OFF CAMPUS	LIVING ON CAMPUS
CA Community Colleges*	\$5,514	\$9,258	\$7,441
California State University	\$7,166	\$10,910	\$9,947
University of California	\$9,371	\$13,115	\$13,321
Independent Colleges**	\$10,082 to \$27,078	\$13,826 to \$30,822	\$10,274 to \$30,966
Private Vocational Schools**	\$7,368 to \$25,120	\$9,864 to \$30,112	N/A

This chart shows average annual costs for single students during the 1997-98 school year, including tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation, and personal expenses such as clothing, laundry and entertainment. Contact each school for specific costs.

**Listed costs include estimated fees. CCC fees are now \$13/unit; fee amount used is \$312 per academic year (\$13 x 12 units x 2 terms).*

***Low figure is 6-month course; high figure is 12-month course.*

WHAT PROGRAMS DOES CALIFORNIA OFFER ?

California, through the California Student Aid Commission, offers a number of financial aid programs. The two major ones are Cal Grants and Graduate Fellowships. There are also Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarships, Law Enforcement Dependents Scholarships, Assumption Program of Loans for Education, Child Development Teacher Grants, and State Work-Study.

Cal Grants

Cal Grants are for students pursuing an undergraduate degree or vocational training and don't have to be repaid. To qualify for a Cal Grant A, B or C, you must:

- ▶ be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen.
- ▶ be a California resident attending an eligible school or college in the state.
- ▶ be making satisfactory academic progress.
- ▶ be in a program leading to an undergraduate degree or certificate.
- ▶ not have a bachelor's or higher degree before receiving a Cal Grant.
- ▶ be attending school at least half-time.
- ▶ have complied with U.S. Selective Service requirements.
- ▶ not owe a refund on any state or federal educational grant or have defaulted student loans.
- ▶ apply by the March 2 postmark deadline.

You can apply for all three Cal Grants by completing the FAFSA and GPA Verification Form, but you may accept only one Cal Grant. Selection for all Cal Grants is based on financial need and grades. For Cal Grant B, disadvantaged background is also considered; for Cal Grant C, pursuit of vocational training and vocational aptitude are considered.

Award notification letters for Cal Grants and Graduate Fellowships are sent in the spring.

Cal Grant A

Cal Grant A helps low- and middle-income students with college tuition and fees. For 1997-98, maximum new awards were \$3,799 at UC and \$1,584 at CSU campuses, and ranged from \$5,250 to \$8,184 at independent colleges. The minimum course length is two academic years. The GPA cutoffs for 1997-98 were 3.05 for entering first-year students and 3.24 for second- and third-year students.

If you receive a Cal Grant A but choose to attend a California community college, you can reserve your award for up to two years until you transfer to a four-year college, provided you continue to qualify. If your Cal Grant A is held in reserve, you cannot use the award if you transfer to a four-year college during your first year.

If you list a California community college before a four-year California college on your FAFSA, it'll be assumed the community college is your first choice. If you receive a Cal Grant A, it'll be placed in reserve for the first year, even if you attend a four-year college.

Cal Grant B

Cal Grant B provides a living allowance (and sometimes tuition and fee assistance) for very low-income, entering first-year students. For 1997-98, the maximum living allowance was \$1,410. The minimum course length is one academic year.

More than half of all new Cal Grant B awards are for those who'll be attending a California community college. Cal Grant B awards for first-year students usually are limited to assisting with living expenses, books and supplies, and transportation. When renewed, a Cal Grant B may also cover all or part of tuition and fees, in addition to the living allowance. For 1997-98, the maximum for tuition and fees was \$8,184.

There are 250 special Cal Grant B awards set aside for community college students transferring to four-year colleges. To qualify, your last school of attendance must be a community college. If you've already transferred to a four-year college, you aren't eligible for a special Cal Grant B.

Tips for Completing the FAFSA for a Cal Grant

Here are some additional tips for completing the FAFSA when applying for a new Cal Grant or Graduate Fellowship.

SECTION A: YOURSELF

- Q 1** **Your name.** Use only the same name as shown on your Social Security card.
- Q 8** **Your Social Security number.** Answer accurately. You cannot file a FAFSA if you don't have a Social Security number.
- Q 11** **Your state of legal residence.** If left blank, you'll be eliminated from the competition for a Cal Grant and Graduate Fellowship. California residents should print "CA."
- Q 12** **Date you became a legal resident.** Be sure to indicate month and year (fill in all blanks).
- Q 21-22** **What is the highest grade level completed by your father and your mother?** Both questions should be completed for maximum consideration for the Cal Grant B and Graduate Fellowship awards.

SECTION E: 1997 INCOME, EARNINGS, AND BENEFITS

- Q 51-62** **Student (& Spouse)**
All students must complete this section. If you don't have an income or benefit for any line, enter a zero. Do not enter N/A. The FAFSA is scanned. Write within the defined fields. Take the time to read the instructions. Contact the California Student Aid Commission or your college financial aid office with questions.
- Q 63-74** **Parents**
You must provide parental income information in this section unless you could accurately answer "yes" to any question in Section C. Failing to include required parental information may disqualify you from consideration for a Cal Grant. To be considered for a Graduate Fellowship, parental income information must be reported for both dependent and independent students.

SECTION G: RELEASES AND SIGNATURES

Q 90-101

What college(s) do you plan to attend in 1998-99? Write in the complete name, city and state of the college(s) you most likely will attend during the 1998-99 school year. If the name or address is incomplete, your FAFSA won't be forwarded to the school. If you know the school's U.S. Department of Education code number, you may list it in place of the school's address. Your high school counselor, financial aid office, or public library should have a list of the USDE's six-digit codes. Do not use any other type of school code.

At least one California school must be listed to be considered for a Cal Grant or Graduate Fellowship. If you're considering a California four-year college, list that school first. California community colleges should be listed farther down. And do not list a community college in Question 90 as your first California school choice unless you are certain you will not attend a four-year school during the 1998-99 school year. Do not abbreviate the names of colleges.

Q 102

The USDE will send you FAFSA information to your state agency and the state agencies of the college(s) listed in questions 90-101.

Do not check this box. Check "No" only if you do not want your information released to California. If you check "No," the California Student Aid Commission will not receive your application information and you won't be considered for a Cal Grant or Graduate Fellowship.

Q 104-105

Signatures. Everyone giving information must sign and date the FAFSA. Unsigned or undated forms will be returned unprocessed. Do not sign, date or mail the FAFSA before January 1, 1998, or it'll be returned.

Cal Grant C

Cal Grant C assists students in vocational training programs with tuition and training costs. For 1997-98, the maximum award was \$2,890 (\$2,360 for tuition and fees and up to \$530 for tools, books, and equipment). To qualify, you must be enrolled in a vocational program at a community or independent college, or vocational school, in a program from four to 24 months in length.

Graduate Fellowships

Graduate Fellowships are for students pursuing a recognized advanced or professional degree who demonstrate their intent to become a full-time college or university faculty member. Students enrolled in a teaching credential program are not eligible. Selection is based on grades, graduate admissions test scores, and disadvantaged background. You must be a California resident attending an eligible California graduate or professional school at least half-time to receive Graduate Fellowship benefits.

Up to 500 awards for tuition and fees are awarded each year. For 1997-98, new awards were \$882 at CSU, \$1,669 at UC, and up to \$6,490 at independent colleges.

To apply, you must file the FAFSA, including parental income and asset information, with the federal processor by the March 2, 1998 postmark deadline. Be sure your parents sign your FAFSA, if required. You must also send a completed GPA Verification Form to the California Student Aid Commission and arrange to have the appropriate test scores sent to the Commission by March 2.

Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarships

This program provides college scholarships to graduating high school seniors who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement in high school and show promise of continued achievement in college. For 1997-98, the scholarship award was \$1,121.

These scholarships are renewable for up to four years of accredited postsecondary study in the United States. Selection is based on grades and SAT/ACT scores. The Robert C. Byrd Scholarship Program is federally funded and subject to annual funding review by Congress.

Applications are available at high schools after February 1, 1998. While school deadlines may vary, all high school nominations must be submitted to the California Student Aid Commission by March 31, 1998.

Law Enforcement Personnel Dependents Scholarships

Law Enforcement Personnel Dependents (LEPD) Scholarships provide need-based grants to dependents and spouses of California peace officers (Highway Patrol, marshals, sheriffs, police officers), California Department of Corrections and California Youth Authority employees, and firefighters employed by public entities who have been killed or totally disabled in the line of duty.

Scholarships range from \$100 to \$8,184 for up to four years. If you receive a Cal Grant, your LEPD scholarship will match your Cal Grant award. Receiving a LEPD scholarship won't prevent you from receiving a Cal Grant, any other grant, or college fee waiver. For more information, contact the California Student Aid Commission.

Assumption Program of Loans For Education

K-12 teacher candidates may apply for the Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE). Each year the California Student Aid Commission selects up to 500 new applicants who earlier were nominated for the program by participating colleges and universities with approved teacher preparation programs.

For a copy of the Commission's Graduate Fellowship Fact Sheet, call **916-526-7590**. You can also find it on the web at www.csac.ca.gov/students.

To qualify, you must have completed at least 60 semester units of undergraduate study and continue to be enrolled for at least ten semester units or the equivalent through the end of each term, depending on your employment status. You cannot be in default on a student loan and must be in good academic standing.

To receive up to \$8,000 in loan-assumption benefits, you must provide three consecutive years of full-time teaching in a California K-12 public school in a designated subject shortage area (math, science, English, foreign language, bilingual education, reading, or special education), or in a school serving a high proportion of low-income students.

Under APLE, you continue making your monthly loan payments. Once a year, the Commission will make a

lump sum payment directly to the lender, after verifying that your teaching service has been completed.

Applications for 1998-99 are available after March 1, 1998 at schools with teacher preparation programs. Participants are selected by their schools. School nominations are due to the Commission by June 30, 1998.

Child Development Teacher Grants

The new Child Development Teacher Grant Program targets students attending California public or private two- or four-year institutions who plan to teach or supervise at a licensed children's center. Up to 100 new grants, renewable for one additional year, will be awarded each year. Participants enrolled in a two-year college will receive a \$1,000 grant per year; those enrolled in four-year colleges will receive a \$2,000 grant per year.

To be eligible, you must have financial need; be enrolled at least half-time in a course of study leading to a Teacher Permit, or hold a Teacher Permit and be working toward a Director Permit; and maintain academic progress and at least a "C" grade point average. In return, participants must teach full-time in a licensed California children's center for one year for each year of grant assistance. The California Student Aid Commission administers the program. (The grant program replaces the former Child Development Teacher Loan Assumption Program.)

For more information, contact your financial aid or early childhood education office, or the Commission. This federally supported program is subject to annual funding review by Congress.

State Work-Study

The State Work-Study program funds on- and off-campus jobs for students at certain California colleges and universities. Schools help place you in jobs related to your course of study, career goals, or the exploration of careers.

CALIFORNIA Residency

Cal Grants, Graduate Fellowships, and other specialized programs are for California residents only. Unmarried students who haven't reached the age of 18 by September 20, 1998 derive their residency status from the parent or nonparent adult responsible for their direct care and control.

To qualify as a nonparent adult, he or she must have had continuous direct care and control of the student for at least two years prior to September 20, 1998.

Unmarried students under 18 are California residents if:

- ➔ a parent or responsible nonparent adult has been a legal resident for at least one year before September 20, 1998;
- ➔ they have lived in California for two years with a responsible non-parent adult;
- ➔ a parent is in the U.S. Armed Services, stationed in California and on active duty as of the first day of class.

Students whose parents are living overseas are considered California residents if they are minors; have been living under the direct care and control of a California resident for at least two years as of September 20, 1998; or if their parents have maintained residency during their absence from California.

All married students, regardless of age, and all unmarried students 18 or older, must establish their own residency. If you'll be 18 on or before September 20, 1998, you must have lived in California for at least one year before this date. You also must be in the United States legally and able to establish residence based on your INS status.

the **LOAN** programs

The federal government offers two loan programs. Whether you borrow under the Federal Family Education Loan Program or the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program depends on the program in which your school participates. The information provided in this workbook is for loans under the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP).

To apply for most federal loans, you first must file the FAFSA. In addition, each loan has its own application and promissory note.

Generally, you'll apply for a loan after you've received your financial aid offer. Do not borrow more than you need.

Federal Family Education Loan Program

Qualified students and their parents can take out Stafford and PLUS loans for college costs under the FFELP. There are also Consolidation loans which allow students to combine existing loans to make loan management and repayment easier.

In California, these loans are guaranteed by the California Student Aid Commission and administered by **EDFUND** – A Service of the California Student Aid Commission. The loans are made by banks, savings and loans, and credit unions.

Federal Direct Loan Program

The Federal Direct Loan Program consists of Direct subsidized and unsubsidized loans, Direct PLUS loans, and Direct Consolidation loans. For Direct loans, the federal government is the sole lender.

WHAT ABOUT FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID ?

The federal government offers a number of financial aid programs. To receive federal financial aid, you must:

- ▶ demonstrate financial need, except for some loan programs.
- ▶ have a high school diploma or GED, or have passed an independently administered approved "ability to benefit" exam.
- ▶ be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen (see the FAFSA or glossary in back for definitions).
- ▶ be enrolled, or accepted for enrollment, at least half time in a degree or certificate program at a college, vocational school or correspondence program approved by the U.S. Department of Education and **EDFUND**.
- ▶ make satisfactory academic progress.
- ▶ possess a valid Social Security number.
- ▶ have complied with U.S. Selective Service registration requirements.
- ▶ not owe a refund on any state or federal educational grant and not be in default on a student loan (you'll need to sign a statement on the FAFSA).

For questions regarding citizenship, see the FAFSA, contact your financial aid office, or call toll-free 1-800-4-FED-AID. Not all schools participate in all federal programs, so check with your financial aid office first.

Pell Grants

The Pell Grant Program is the country's largest grant program and provides a foundation for all additional aid.

Pell Grants are awarded to every qualified undergraduate student and don't have to be repaid. You must qualify financially, be in an eligible program at an eligible school or college, and not have already earned a bachelor's or professional degree. You can receive only one Pell Grant a year and apply by filing the FAFSA.

0% Fee Loans

You'll pay no insurance fee on Stafford and PLUS loans guaranteed by the California Student Aid Commission through June 30, 1998, a savings of 1% over loans guaranteed by other agencies. You pocket the savings up front.

For the 1997-98 award year, Pell Grants for full-time students ranged from \$400 to \$2,700. You can also receive a Pell Grant if you're enrolled less than half time.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants

If you qualify for assistance beyond the Pell Grant, you may receive a Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant ranging from \$100 to \$4,000 per year. Colleges award these grants to students with exceptional financial need. Priority is given to students receiving a Pell Grant. For more information, contact your financial aid office.

Federal Work-Study

If you're offered Federal Work-Study as part of your financial aid package, your college will assist you in locating a part-time job on or off campus. If possible, you'll be placed in work related to your studies or career plans, or in community service. You'll earn at least the federal minimum wage.

Federal Stafford loans

Stafford loans are the most common source of student loan funds and are for undergraduate, graduate, vocational, and professional students. There are two types: subsidized and unsubsidized. Your FAFSA will establish your eligibility for both.

- ▶ Subsidized Stafford loans are need-based. The federal government pays the interest on the loan while you're in school and during the grace period before repayment begins. Monthly payments begin six months after you graduate, drop below half time, or withdraw from school.

To qualify for a subsidized Stafford loan, you must meet all the requirements for federal student financial aid (see page 12). You must also have had your eligibility for a Pell Grant determined.

- ▶ Unsubsidized Stafford loans may be taken out by all qualified students, regardless of their incomes. You must meet the same requirements as those for subsidized Stafford loans, except you don't have to demonstrate financial need. Interest accrues after the loan is disbursed, and interest payments begin immediately but can be deferred. It's to your advantage, however, to pay the interest while you're in school. This way, your debt will be only the principal amount when you start repayment.

The interest rate on Stafford loans for new borrowers is variable, with a current cap of 8.25%. Any origination and insurance fees will be deducted. You must repay Stafford loans within ten years. Lenders offer standard, graduated, and income-sensitive repayment plans.

Your loan funds will be sent to your school in two or more payments and released to you after your enrollment and academic progress have been verified. If you're a first-year student, your first loan disbursement could be up to 30 days after classes begin.

Federal PLUS loans

With PLUS loans, parents and stepparents with good credit histories can borrow up to the total cost of their dependent's education, minus any other aid for which the student is eligible. Parents must repay the loan even if their dependent's education isn't completed.

The interest rate on PLUS loans is variable, with a cap of 9%. Origination and insurance fees may be deducted and are subject to change. PLUS checks are released as copayable to parents and schools.

total Stafford borrowing

Total borrowing for undergraduates may not exceed \$23,000 for dependent students and \$46,000 for independent students (no more than \$23,000 of which may be in subsidized Stafford loans). For graduate students, the aggregate limit is \$138,500; no more than \$65,500 may be in subsidized Stafford loans. For graduate students, these totals include Stafford loans received for undergraduate study.

and sent directly to schools. Loans are disbursed in two or more payments. Interest begins to accrue immediately, and repayment starts within 60 days of the loan's last disbursement for the school year.

To qualify for a PLUS loan, you must meet the requirements for federal financial aid (see page 12). Your parents must also meet some of these general requirements.

Federal Consolidation loans

Consolidation loans allow you to combine different types of federal student loans to make repayment more manageable. Participating lenders pay off your existing student loans and make a new loan having a single monthly payment with an extended repayment term of up to 30 years. Married borrowers may consolidate their individual loans under a single payment schedule. The benefits of loan consolidation will differ for each borrower. Generally, monthly payments are less but borrowers pay more interest over the life of the Consolidation loan.

To qualify for loan consolidation, you must be in the "grace period" (for Direct loans, you can still be in school), already be in repayment, or be a defaulted borrower who will reenter repayment through consolidation; and have no other consolidation application pending or in process with another lender.

The interest rate is variable, with a cap of 8.25% for Stafford loans. The cap for PLUS loans for parents being consolidated is 9%.

Get all the facts before opting for a Consolidation loan. You may be relinquishing your deferment options, as well as your repayment options. Be sure you understand that your signature on the Consolidation application and promissory note obligates you to the terms of the new loan. You don't have to consolidate all your loans, but any you list on the application will be consolidated.

Federal Perkins loans

Federal Perkins loans are very low-interest loans (5%) made through participating schools for students with financial need.

The annual loan limit is \$3,000 for undergraduate students and \$5,000 for graduate students. The aggregate loan limits are \$15,000 for study leading to a bachelor's degree, and \$30,000 for graduate or professional study. Colleges participating in the Expanded Lending Option offer higher loan limits. You'll pay no interest while you're enrolled at least half time, and payments begin nine months after you graduate, leave school, or drop below half-time. Depending on the size of the loan, you'll have up to ten years to repay.

FFELP LENDERS

American Baptist
Credit Union
800-347-2228 x121

American Express
Educational
Assurance Co.
888-272-5543

Arizona Educational
Loan Marketing Co.
800-367-2369

ASAP/Union Bank
and Trust
800-545-6765

Assured Life
Association and
Woodmen of the World
888-272-5543

Bank of America
800-344-8382

Bank of Stockton
209-941-1214

Bank One Education
Finance Group
800-487-4404

Central State Credit
Union
800-635-1867

Chase Manhattan Bank
888-272-5543

Chela Financial
415-391-3131

Citibank Student
Loan Corp.
800-967-2400

College Credit/
TIAA CREF
888-272-5543

Corus Bank
800-345-4325

Crestar Bank/Great
Western Bank
800-835-4611

Educaid
800-347-7667

Educational Funding
Services, Inc.
800-523-7446

Exchange Bank
800-995-4066

First Bank, FSB
800-634-2533

First Bank, NA
800-456-4757

First Federal Bank
888-272-5543

First Union Bank/Signet
800-955-0005

Household Bank
888-272-5543

Hughes Aircraft
Employees Federal
Credit Union
310-643-5421

Key Bank USA
800-539-5363

Mission Federal
Credit Union
619-546-2063

Nellie Mae
800-634-9308

Norwest Bank
888-695-6260

Orange County
Teachers Federal
Credit Union
800-462-8328

Pan American Bank
213-264-3310

PNC Bank
800-456-4757 (Unipac)
800-835-4611 (AFSA)

Safe America
Credit Union
800-972-0999

Student Loan
Marketing Assn.
888-272-5543

Southern California
Savings and Loan Assn.
800-635-1867

Student Education
Loan Marketing Corp.
800-360-8888

University Credit Union
888-272-5543

U.S. Bank
800-242-1200

USC Federal
Credit Union
888-272-5543

Wells Fargo Bank
800-874-6989

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO ACCEPT A STUDENT LOAN?

An educational loan is a serious commitment. Student loans must be paid back with interest, and borrowers must make payments until the loan is repaid in full. If you borrow, make sure you understand all your obligations.

Here are some things to consider before applying for a loan or accepting a loan check:

► **Is the school or program a good investment?**

You have the right to be informed about a school's tuition and refund policies; academic and training programs; financial aid programs; faculty and facilities; and its graduates' success in finding a job. Choose the school that's best for you. Remember, even if you don't graduate or aren't happy with the education, you still must repay your student loan.

► **Are there other options?** Check out all scholarships, grants, and employment opportunities. Can you borrow less? Borrow only what you need.

► **Can you repay the loan?** Before applying for a loan, determine if the loan is affordable. Estimate how much you'll need and how much your monthly payments will be, using the repayment guides in the loan application and promissory note. By projecting your potential earnings, you can set your borrowing limits. Keep track of how much you borrow and submit only one application per loan. Give yourself some credit – borrow smart.

► **Know your rights and responsibilities.** As a borrower, you have important rights and responsibilities which are outlined in the application and promissory note. You're expected to know and understand these rights and responsibilities.

► **Simplify loan repayment by staying with one lender.** Many lenders in California make loans to students and their lending policies differ. Borrow from the lender that best meets your needs. Remaining with the same lender for any additional loans will keep payments

Sample Student Loan Repayment Schedule

AMOUNT BORROWED	7% MONTHLY PAYMENT	8% MONTHLY PAYMENT	9% MONTHLY PAYMENT	10% MONTHLY PAYMENT	YEARS IN REPAYMENT
\$3,000	\$59.40	\$62.28	\$63.60	\$64.53	5
5,000	58.05	60.67	63.34	66.08	10
8,000	92.88	97.06	101.34	105.72	10
12,000	139.32	145.59	152.01	158.58	10
25,000	197.37	303.32	316.69	330.38	10
32,000	371.52	388.25	405.36	422.88	10
40,000	464.40	485.31	506.70	528.60	10
47,000	545.67	570.24	595.38	621.11	10
52,000	603.72	630.90	658.71	687.18	10

more manageable and reduce the number of lenders to contact for changes in name, address, or enrollment status.

► **Keep in touch with the lender and school.**

Problems will arise if your records with the lender are inaccurate or outdated. If you change your name, move, leave school, or change your graduation date, inform the lender promptly. If it appears that you're no longer in school or cannot be contacted by the lender, your loan could go into repayment prematurely.

► **Lenders have three options in servicing your loan.** They can keep the account and service the loan; transfer the account to a servicing agency; or sell the loan to a secondary market which may contract with a servicing agency.

► **Repayment for subsidized Stafford loans begins six months after you drop below half-time.** This six-month grace period allows you time to obtain employment and prepare to begin repaying your loan.

► **Interest payments on unsubsidized Stafford loans start immediately,** with payment on the principal following the same terms as those for subsidized Stafford loans. To let interest accrue, select the option on your loan application.

► **Repayment of PLUS loans begins immediately.** Your parents will be paying both principal and interest on the loan while you're still in school.

► **Avoid default by filing for a deferment or forbearance.** If unemployment, temporary financial setbacks, or other problems make it difficult to repay your loan, you may be eligible for a deferment of six months or more. Deferments aren't available if your loan is in default. If you don't qualify for a deferment and are unable to make payments, ask your lender for a hardship extension or "forbearance" where payments are postponed or reduced. During deferments, the federal government pays the interest on subsidized loans; with forbearances, interest accrues on both the principal and any capitalized interest. For information on your deferment options, call **EDFUND** at 916-526-7900.

► **A defaulted loan is serious.** If you default, it means that the lender has turned the loan over to the guaranty agency for collection and the entire amount is due and payable. Consequences include no more financial aid; garnishment of state and federal tax refunds; wage garnishment; a bad credit rating; and assessment of higher interest rate (up to 10%). On behalf of the California Student Aid Commission, **EDFUND** will take all steps necessary to collect the money owed and will take you to court and use other legal action, if necessary. Pay close attention to the terms of your loan.

► **It can cost money to borrow money.** There may be loan application, origination, and insurance fees, in addition to interest.

► **The longer you take to pay off a loan, the more interest you'll pay.**

WHAT FINANCIAL AID DOES MY SCHOOL OFFER?

Your school's financial aid office can help you qualify for financial aid. Financial aid offices provide:

- information on all student aid programs.
- an explanation of how much aid you're eligible to receive.
- help completing the FAFSA.
- advice on financial planning and money management.

- reference books on sources of financial aid funds.
- information on applying for a student loan, interest rates, and repayment schedules.
- help in a financial emergency with short-term loans.

Community college fee waiver

The California Community Colleges Board of Governors Enrollment Fee Waiver pays enrollment fees for students who are California residents and who meet one of the following:

- have already qualified for financial aid, such as a Pell Grant or Cal Grant; or
- receive TANF, SSI, or General Assistance/General Relief, or whose family receives this assistance; or
- meet the following income standards:

NUMBER IN HOUSEHOLD (INCLUDING YOURSELF)	TOTAL FAMILY INCOME LAST YEAR* (ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME AND/OR UNTAXED INCOME)
1	\$7,500 or less
2	\$15,000 or less
3	\$16,000 or less
4	\$17,000 or less
*Add \$1,000 for each additional dependent.	

Dependents of deceased or disabled veterans eligible for benefits under the California Veterans Dependents Educational Assistance Program and dependents of deceased or disabled California National Guard members who are certified by the Adjutant General's Office also qualify for the fee waiver. For more information, contact your community college's financial aid office.

Educational Opportunity Programs

The Educational Opportunity Programs (EOP) at California State University and University of California campuses provide grants,

counseling, or tutorial services to low-income disadvantaged students. Counseling and tutorial services are offered by the campus EOP office, and grants are provided through the financial aid office.

To qualify, you must be disadvantaged according to state regulations and enrolled full time at a California State University or University of California campus (if enrolled less than full time, approval of the EOP director is needed). For more information, contact your EOP or financial aid office.

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services

The Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) at California community colleges provide grants, counseling, and tutorial services to low-income disadvantaged students. For this program, you must be disadvantaged according to state regulations and enrolled full time at a community college (if enrolled less than full time, approval of the EOPS director is needed). Questions? Contact your EOPS office or financial aid office.

Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education

The Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE) is a special educational support program for EOPS students who are welfare recipients and single parents with preschoolers. CARE offers counseling, transportation, grants and services for child care, textbooks and educational supplies. The program operates on most California community college campuses.

Grants and scholarships

Not all financial aid is provided by the state or federal government. Many schools offer their own programs, including grants, scholarships, and employment opportunities. For more information, check with the financial aid offices at each college you're considering.

Tuition payment plans

Your college may have special installment plans with finance charges for parents who cannot afford lump-sum tuition costs. Some schools offer plans that protect you from future tuition increases, or offer tuition discounts for paying in advance, or if more than one family member attends the same college.

Financial Aid Offers

Here are some things you should know about a financial aid offer:

- ➔ Sign and return all forms. Keep copies of everything. If required, indicate whether you're accepting or declining the award.
- ➔ You don't need to accept the entire student aid package. If you don't accept the loan portion, the financial aid office usually won't be able to increase other funds you've been offered. If you decide you need the loan later, talk to your financial aid office.
- ➔ Some colleges may let you exchange work-study for a loan or a loan for work-study. Check with your financial aid office.
- ➔ Your award may be changed if your resources or expenses change. Report any changes, both before and during the school year, to your financial aid office.

Comparing College Costs with Financial Aid Offers

Your family's out-of-pocket costs will differ from college to college because both student budgets and financial aid offers vary. To help you compare costs, consider the following:

- ➔ What is your total student budget and how much are you and your family expected to pay?
- ➔ How much grant and scholarship aid is offered? Are these renewable? What are the terms and conditions?
- ➔ If your total financial need cannot be met by grants or scholarships, can you earn the additional dollars or do you need to borrow?
- ➔ How much loan aid is offered? What are the terms and conditions? Remember, student loans must be repaid, with interest.

WHAT BENEFITS ARE THERE FOR SPECIAL GROUPS?

Veterans and their dependents

Federal educational benefits

The Montgomery G.I. Bill and the Montgomery G.I. Bill-Selected Reserve provide educational benefits for individuals entering military service or the reserves after June 30, 1985. Reservists who have enlisted for six or more years after July 1, 1985 may be eligible for the Selected Reserve Education Benefit.

VEAP is the post-Vietnam era Veterans Educational Assistance Program for those who entered the service after December 31, 1976 and contributed to the VEAP fund while on active duty or had contributions made for them by the military.

Service-disabled veterans may be eligible for vocational rehabilitation from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Benefits may include education or training to qualify for employment, counseling, tutorial assistance, and medical services.

Educational benefits also are available to veterans' dependents if the veteran (spouse or parent) died in service, was totally disabled, or is listed as missing in action.

With the Veterans' Work-Study program, eligible veterans are paid for working at U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs facilities. They earn the federal minimum wage, and their work-study earnings are nontaxable.

For more information, contact your college's Office of Veterans Affairs, the local office of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (in the phone book under *U.S. Government Offices*), or call toll-free 1-800-827-1000.

State educational benefits

The California Department of Veterans Affairs administers a college fee waiver program for children and dependents of service-connected disabled veterans or service-related deceased veterans. Under the program, registration and tuition fees are waived at any UC, CSU, or California community college. Contact the County Veterans Service office (listed in the phone book under *County Government Offices*), your college's Office of Veterans Affairs, or the California Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-800-952-5626.

Surviving dependents of law enforcement or fire prevention personnel

Children of California city, county, or state law enforcement or fire prevention personnel who were killed or died as a result of active duty are eligible for registration fee waivers (also known as Alan Patee Scholarships) at any California public institution of higher education. You need to provide verification documentation, such as a letter from the law enforcement or fire prevention retirement benefits administrator, a birth certificate and death certificate. Contact your school bursar's office for more information.

Disabled students

Disabled students who meet the academic qualifications for a college should apply for admission and, if needed, financial aid. By law, a qualified student cannot be excluded from college solely because of a disability.

All public schools and colleges, and many independent schools, provide disabled student services. Benefits may include counseling, tutoring, readers, interpreters, note takers, special parking zones, and loan of special equipment. You may also request that a class be relocated to a more accessible place on campus.

Your student budget, as calculated by the college, should include all educational expenses necessary to accommodate your disability. Be sure to work with your financial aid office if you apply, so they understand your particular circumstances.

For more information, contact the school's disabled students' office, the national organizations serving your particular disability, or the nearest office of the California Department of Rehabilitation (in the phone book under *State Government Offices*).

If you have a disability severe enough to interfere with getting a job, but not so severe that you cannot work at all, you may be eligible for vocational training assistance from the California Department of Rehabilitation. Benefits may include help with tuition and fees, books, tools, special equipment, and transportation. Those with the most severe disabilities are served first.

Hearing-impaired individuals with a Telecommunication Device for the Deaf may contact the California Student Aid Commission at TDD 916-526-7542. In addition, the U.S. Department of Education offers a free cassette

recording of financial aid information. Call 1-800-4-FED-AID or TDD 1-800-730-8313.

You may also want to request *1997 Financial Aid for Students with Disabilities*, a publication produced by the HEATH Resource Center of the American Council on Education. Single copies are available free. Call 1-800-544-3284 or write to HEATH, One Dupont Circle, Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20036-1193.

For information on benefits for service-disabled veterans, call the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-800-827-1000.

Native Americans

Native American students who can prove membership in a federally recognized tribe may receive education grants from the Federal Bureau of Indian Affairs. If you're a member of a California tribe, contact the Bureau's Office of Indian Education, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825, 916-979-2560.

Families with dependent children

If you're both a student and a parent, you may receive cash aid through the TANF (Temporary Aid for Needy Families) program if your child's other parent is deceased or absent from the home; you or your spouse are physically or mentally disabled, or unemployed; or you're working less than 100 hours a month. Contact your local welfare office for more information.

Athletes

Athletes considering a National Collegiate Athletic Association college should contact the NCAA for information on college recruiting rules, grade point average and testing requirements, and registration requirements. Write to the Association at 6201 College Boulevard, Overland Park, Kansas, or call 913-339-1906.

FINANCIAL AID Follow Up

After you file your FAFSA, you should receive correspondence from several agencies and schools.

➔ The federal processor will send you a Student Aid Report, or SAR. The SAR provides information on your eligibility for federal aid. It's your responsibility to review the SAR carefully to check for errors or to make necessary changes. You should submit any corrections immediately. Keep a copy of your corrected SAR.

➔ The financial aid administrator at each school you requested to receive your FAFSA analysis will send an evaluation of your potential eligibility for scholarships and grants, work opportunities, loans, and other financing options, once you've been admitted.

➔ The California Student Aid Commission will send you a letter regarding your eligibility for a Cal Grant and Graduate Fellowship, if you filed both the FAFSA and the Commission's GPA Verification Form.

WHAT ABOUT OTHER OPTIONS?

Scholarshare

Scholarshare is an innovative new tax-deferred savings plan for California students and their families administered by the California Student Aid Commission. Under the program, parents make contributions for their children's future college expenses into the Scholarshare Trust. Once in the trust, funds grow on a tax-deferred basis, and when withdrawn to pay college expenses, earnings on the principal are taxable by the state and federal governments at the student's rate rather than the parents'. For more information, contact the Commission at 916-526-7590.

Private scholarships

In addition to applying for the major federal, state and campus-based sources of financial aid, scholarships from a community or professional group, business, labor union, church, or national foundation can help with college costs, too. Some scholarships are based on financial need; others are not. Awards also may be based on good grades, leadership ability, special talents, or heritage.

Use the reference list in the back of this workbook to research information on scholarships at your library. There's also a guide to financial aid information on the World Wide Web.

Community organizations

Many civic and community groups such as Rotary, Elks, American Legion, 4H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Chamber of Commerce, PTA, and others offer scholarships and other assistance. Contact the various patriotic, civic, fraternal, religious, ethnic, social, and professional organizations in your community.

Employers

Many private businesses and corporations offer scholarships or loans to employees' children or to students who live in the community where the company is located. Others offer aid to students majoring in fields related to the company's activities or interests. To learn more, start with the reference list at the back of this workbook and the directories at your library. Company personnel offices have application information and forms.

Professional, career, and trade associations

Libraries have directories of scholarships and loans offered by professional, career and trade associations in your proposed career or field of study. Also, ask your art or shop teacher, coach or bandmaster about schools and colleges looking for students with your talents. Scholarship leads also may be listed in magazines related to your special interests and skills.

National Merit Scholarships

The independent, nonprofit Merit Scholarship Corporation awards about 5,000 scholarships each year. Students compete on the basis of test scores, academic and extracurricular achievements, and school recommendations. Taking the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) in the fall of your junior year in high school will enter you in the competition.

The military

Educational benefits and scholarships are available to those who serve in the U.S. Armed Forces. In some programs, enlistees receive an education first, and serve an equivalent amount of military time after graduation. Other programs allow you to accumulate money for an education while completing an initial enlistment period. Some scholarships pay full tuition and all instructional fees, and may include a living allowance. Loan repayment is also available to Army service personnel. For more information, contact your local Armed Forces recruiting office.

Working your way through college

It may not be possible to earn all your own college costs, but a part-time or summer job can help reduce the amount you need to borrow. School employment offices can help you find a job on or off campus. Also, check with the local office of the California Employment Development Department for job listings.

On some campuses, work-study programs help students find career-related jobs.

Community service jobs through AmeriCorps provide earnings and educational awards of up to \$4,725. For more information, call 916-323-7646 or visit its web site at www.cns.gov.

Finishing college sooner

High school students can take The College Board's Advanced Placement examinations and receive college credit for honors courses or independent study in foreign languages, English, history, science, mathematics, music, and art. Advanced college placement avoids repeating work and could save the cost of up to one year of study. See your high school counselor.

Reentry students

Reentry students might find that a school will give academic credit for job, volunteer, or travel experiences. The College Board's College-Level Examination Program is a nationwide program of testing for college credit. Exams are based on undergraduate courses in a variety of subjects. CLEP enables you to demonstrate knowledge gained outside formal educational settings and assists colleges in recognizing and rewarding that knowledge. Contact CLEP, c/o The College Board, Western Regional Office, Suite 480, 2099 Gateway Place, San Jose, CA 95110-1017.

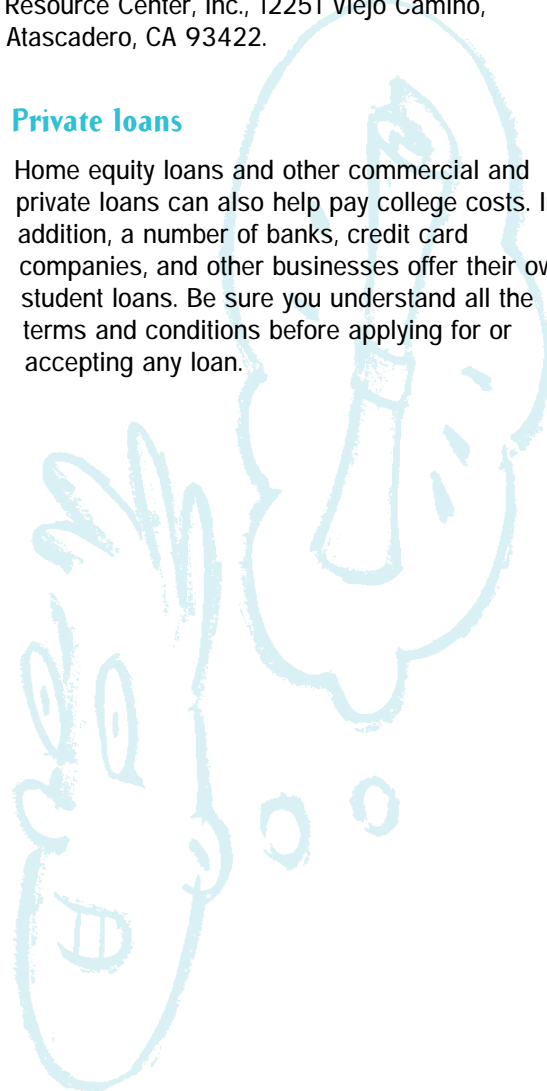
Cooperative education

Cooperative education allows you to alternate work and school. You may take time off from school to work in career-related jobs off campus, receive academic credit for that work experience, and return to school in good standing. Often you can earn enough money to pay for the next year, while gaining valuable work experience.

Cooperative education programs are available at public and independent schools and colleges. For more information, write to the California Cooperative Education Association, c/o Western Resource Center, Inc., 12251 Viejo Camino, Atascadero, CA 93422.

Private loans

Home equity loans and other commercial and private loans can also help pay college costs. In addition, a number of banks, credit card companies, and other businesses offer their own student loans. Be sure you understand all the terms and conditions before applying for or accepting any loan.



MONEY MANAGEMENT tips

No matter how much financial aid you receive in scholarship, grant, loan, or part-time employment, it's important to know as much as possible about money management. You can reduce your dependence on long-term loans while you're in college if you use good money management skills. Those same skills can enable you to manage your earnings after graduation so you can repay your loans while investing in your own financial future.

Good budgeting is at the heart of effective money management. Following is a nine-month student budget for 1997-98 and a budget planning worksheet you can use to manage your money while in college.

Nine-Month Student Budget 1997-98

ALLOWANCE		WITH PARENTS	CAMPUS HOUSING	OFF-CAMPUS
Tuition and Fees¹		ACTUAL INSTITUTIONAL CHARGES		
Books and Supplies²		\$ 630 PER ACADEMIC YEAR		
Food³	PER MONTH PER YEAR	\$266/month \$2,394/year	Actual institutional charges ⁴	\$190/month \$1,710/year
Housing⁵	PER MONTH PER YEAR	Included in above		\$466/month \$4,194/year
Transportation⁶	PER MONTH PER YEAR	\$78/month \$702/year	\$62/month \$558/year	\$90/month \$810/year
Child/Dependent Care		<i>Reasonable expenses with adequate documentation provided by the student, depending upon age and number of children.</i>		
Personal/Miscellaneous⁷	PER MONTH PER YEAR	\$164/month \$1,476/year	\$134/month \$1,206/year	\$178/month \$1,602/year
Loan Fees		<i>For student loan borrowers, actual or average loan origination and insurance fees.</i>		
Total, excluding allowances based on actual institutional charges	PER MONTH PER YEAR	\$578/month \$5,202/year	\$266/month \$2,394/year	\$994/month \$8,946/year

¹ Includes all mandatory fees.

² Doesn't include purchase of a computer.

³ Includes food, snacks, meals on campus.

⁴ If contract is for less than nine months, adjustment may be made at the rate of \$266/month or fraction thereof.

⁵ Includes dorm charges, rent, utilities, household supplies, etc.

⁶ Includes minimal vehicle maintenance.

⁷ Includes clothing, laundry, and dry cleaning, personal care, gifts, recreation, etc.

Budget

Use this worksheet to calculate your income and expenses.

PLANNING WORKSHEET

INCOME SOURCE		ESTIMATED YEARLY TOTAL	ESTIMATED MONTHLY TOTAL
MONEY FROM PARENTS			
MONEY FROM SAVINGS			
WORK-STUDY			
SCHOLARSHIPS			
GRANTS			
LOANS			
SPOUSE'S WAGES			
OTHER			
TOTAL INCOME		\$	\$
EXPENSES		ESTIMATED YEARLY TOTAL	ESTIMATED MONTHLY TOTAL
TUITION			
FEES			
BOOKS/SUPPLIES			
RENT/HOUSING			
UTILITIES			
GAS/ELECTRICITY			
TELEPHONE			
CHILD CARE			
OTHER			
TRANSPORTATION	Auto Gas		
	Auto Maintenance		
	Auto Insurance		
	Auto Registration		
	Auto Payment		
	Public Transportation		
	Parking		
FOOD	Groceries		
	Restaurants		
	Snacks		
CLOTHING	Clothes		
	Laundry/Dry Cleaning		
ENTERTAINMENT			
CREDIT CARD DEBT			
MEDICAL/DENTAL			
MISCELLANEOUS			
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$	\$
TOTAL INCOME LESS TOTAL EXPENSES		= \$	= \$
		(Available Funds)	(Available Funds)

If your expenses are greater than your income, you'll need to look at options for reducing your expenses and/or supplementing your income. A consumer credit counselor can help.

Major Financial Aid Programs

... AT A GLANCE

- Waives enrollment and other fees at California community colleges
- Contact your financial aid office or the California Student Aid Commission
- Contact your financial aid office or EDFUND
- † Loan amount limited to college costs minus financial aid
- †† Combines outstanding student loans to make repayment easier
- * Applications available February 1 from high school principals
- ** Applications available March 1 from schools with approved teacher credentialing programs

GRANTS
Need-based
financial aid that
does not have to
be repaid

PROGRAM	WHO CAN APPLY	ANNUAL AWARDS UP TO...	FILING DEADLINE	FORMS REQUIRED	SEE PAGE...
Federal Pell Grant	undergraduates	\$3,000	contact your financial aid office	FAFSA	12
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant	undergraduates	\$4,000	••	FAFSA	13
Cal Grant A	undergraduates	\$8,184	March 2, 1998	FAFSA, GPA Verification Form	8
Cal Grant B	undergraduates	\$1,410-\$8,184	March 2, 1998	FAFSA, GPA Verification Form	8
Cal Grant C	vocational students	\$2,890	March 2, 1998	FAFSA, GPA Verification Form	10
Board of Governors Fee Waiver	California community college students	•	ongoing	FAFSA	16
Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education	California community college students	•	contact your financial aid office	••	17
Educational Opportunity Programs	undergraduates at UCs and CSUs	\$1,000	contact your financial aid office	••	16
Extended Opportunity Programs and Services	California community college students	\$900	contact your financial aid office	••	17
Graduate Fellowship	graduates	\$6,490	March 2, 1998	FAFSA, GPA Verification Form, test scores	10
WORK-STUDY School assists in locating a job related to your studies					
Federal Work-Study	undergraduates/graduates	contact your financial aid office	contact your financial aid office	FAFSA	13
State Work-Study	undergraduates/graduates	contact your financial aid office	contact your financial aid office	FAFSA	11
LOANS Borrowed money that must be repaid with interest					
Federal Perkins Loan	undergraduates/graduates	U - \$3,000 G - \$5,000	contact your financial aid office	FAFSA, Loan Application and Promissory Note	14
Federal Stafford Loan (Subsidized & Unsubsidized)	undergraduates/graduates	U - \$2,625-\$5,500 G - \$8,500	contact your financial aid office	FAFSA, Loan Application and Promissory Note	13
Additional Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	undergraduates/graduates	U - \$5,000 G - \$10,000	contact your financial aid office	FAFSA, Loan Application and Promissory Note	13
Federal PLUS Loan	parents of dependent students	†	•••	PLUS Loan Application and Promissory Note	13
Federal Consolidation Loan	undergraduates/graduates	††	contact lender	Loan Application and Promissory Note	14
SPECIAL PROGRAMS					
Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship	undergraduates	\$1,121	nominations by March 31, 1998*	••	10
Assumption Program of Loans for Education	undergraduates/graduates	\$8,000 (over three years)	nominations by June 30, 1998**	••	10
Child Development Teacher Grant Program	undergraduates	\$1,000-\$2,000	ongoing	••	11
Law Enforcement Personnel Dependents Scholarship	undergraduates	\$8,184	ongoing	••	10

What are my **RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES?**

Education beyond high school requires time, money, and effort. As a student and consumer, you should evaluate your education and training options carefully. Learn all you can about a college's academic program, facilities, graduation rates, full cost of attendance, refund policies, and financial aid programs.

Your Rights

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK A SCHOOL:

- What it costs to attend, and what its refund policies are if you drop out.
- How the school determines whether you're making satisfactory academic progress, and what happens if you're not.
- What financial help is available, including information on all federal, state, and school financial aid programs.
- About the deadlines for submitting applications for each financial aid program and how financial aid recipients are selected.
- How your financial need is determined. This process includes how costs for tuition and fees, room and board, transportation, books and supplies, personal and miscellaneous expenses are considered in your student budget.
- What resources (such as parental contribution, other financial aid, personal assets) are considered in the financial need calculation, and how much of your financial need, as determined by the school, is met.
- To explain the various programs in your financial aid package, and how and when you'll receive your aid.
- To reconsider your financial aid application, if you believe you've been treated unfairly.
- How much of your financial aid must be repaid, and what portion is grant or gift aid. You have the right to know what the student loan interest rate is, the total amount that must be repaid, payback procedures, when repayment begins, and how long you have to repay.
- How to apply for additional aid, if your financial circumstances change.

Your Responsibilities

YOU HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO:

- Review and consider all information about a school's program before enrolling.
- Complete the financial aid application accurately and submit it on time to the right place. Intentional misrepresentation on an application for federal financial aid is a violation of law and a criminal offense subject to penalties.
- Read and keep copies of all forms and agreements you sign.
- Respond promptly and return all requested additional documentation, verification, corrections, or new information to the appropriate agency.
- Notify the school, if you have a loan, and lender of changes in your name, permanent mailing address, marital or enrollment status.
- Know and comply with the deadlines for applications or reapplications for aid, and understand the school's refund procedures.
- Repay your student loans. Some lenders now offer incentives for borrowers who repay their loans on time.
- File for a deferment or forbearance if you need to, to avoid default.

WHERE DO I GO FOR MORE INFORMATION ?

You can search for information on scholarships, grants, and loans in the directories at your library. In addition, the U.S. Department of Education publishes *The Student Guide to Financial Aid* which you can request by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID. You can also check out the World Wide Web.

The following reference list was compiled by librarians at California State University, Sacramento:

ANNUAL REGISTER OF GRANT SUPPORT.

Chicago: Marquis, Annual. Detailed descriptions of grant programs offered by a wide variety of organizations are given within broad subject categories. Many of the grants for college and graduate study are included in the "Education-Scholar Aid Programs" and "Special Populations" categories.

A's AND B's OF ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS.

Alexandria, VA: Octameron, Annual. Good general information on financial assistance prefaces the main body of tabular data on major awards available at colleges throughout the country.

BARRON'S COMPLETE COLLEGE FINANCING

GUIDE. *NY: Barron's Educational Series, 1997.* Includes a variety of methods for financing a college education; how, when, and where to apply for college scholarships and tuition loans. Examples of forms and instructions for submitting applications.

CHRONICLE FINANCIAL AID GUIDE. *Moravia, NY:*

Chronicle Guidance, Annual. Detailed information on grants and scholarships available from organizations and societies. It also gives information on assistance arranged by state.

COLLEGE BLUE BOOK. SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND LOANS. *New York: MacMillan, Annual.*

Four indexes provide easy access to loans and scholarships by titles, subject, level of education and sponsoring organization.

THE COLLEGE COSTS AND FINANCIAL AID HANDBOOK.

New York: The College Entrance Examination Board, 1997. A guide for prospective college students and their parents who are assessing the true costs of college and planning to meet these costs. Topics include preparing a budget, evaluating family financial resources, and applying for financial aid.

COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID ANNUAL. *New York: Prentice-*

Hall, Annual. Includes a list of more than 2,000 private scholarships, with a helpful section on cooperative education programs.

COLLEGE IN CALIFORNIA: THE INSIDE TRACK 1995.

Los Gatos: Baywood House, Inc. A straightforward book with up-to-date specifics on what it takes to plan for and go to college in California and how to pay for it.

DIRECTORY OF FINANCIAL AIDS FOR MINORITIES. *San*

Carlos, CA: Reference Service Press, Biennial. Includes descriptions of all types of financial aid programs for minorities in the U.S.

DIRECTORY OF FINANCIAL AIDS FOR WOMEN. *San*

Carlos, CA: Reference Service Press, Biennial. Includes over 1,000 references to public and private sources of financial aid for women, including scholarships, fellowships, loans, grants, awards, and internships.

DON'T MISS OUT: THE AMBITIOUS STUDENT'S GUIDE

TO FINANCIAL AID. *Alexandria: Octameron Press, Annual.* Traditional funding sources as well as more creative financing possibilities.

Comprehensive but concise, it dispels a few myths in the process.

On
the Web

- ➔ *California Student Aid Commission* www.csac.ca.gov
- ➔ *EdFUND* www.edfund.org
- ➔ *Mapping Your Future* www.mapping-your-future.org
- ➔ *Financial Aid Information Page* www.finaid.org
- ➔ *FastWeb* www.fastweb.com
- ➔ *U.S. Department of Education's The Student Guide*
www.ed.gov/prog_info/SFA/studentguide
- ➔ *FAFSA Express* www.ed.gov/money.html

FINANCIAL AIDS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.

Dubuque: Brown and Benchmark, Biennial. Information on over 5,000 scholarships and student aid programs – both specialized and general. An introductory section presents guidelines for students and counselors on how to apply for scholarships and reviews the requirements of the SAT and ACT exams.

FINANCIAL AID FOR THE DISABLED AND THEIR FAMILIES. *San Carlos, CA: Reference Service Press, Biennial.* Describes over 400 financial aid programs open only to the disabled and their dependents.

FREE COLLEGE MONEY, TERM PAPERS, AND SEX ED.

Kensington, MD: Information USA, Inc. 1994. Detailed directory of federal, state, and other sources of funding for college. Section on Term Papers, Sex(ed) is an annotated list of hotlines and sources of help with campus life. Includes "Top 40" lists of best states for students, campuses with highest crime, etc.

FREE MONEY FOR COLLEGE. *New York: Facts on File, 1996.* A digest that pulls together information from a variety of directories. More than 1,000 grants and scholarships for undergraduate studies are listed by state, field of study, category of student. Emphasis is on private institutions and organizations. Many of the grants are quite specialized and specific. Other titles in this series: *Free Money from Colleges and Universities* and *Free Money for College from the Government.*

FUND YOUR WAY THROUGH COLLEGE: UNCOVERING 1,700 GREAT OPPORTUNITIES IN UNDERGRADUATE FINANCIAL AID. *Detroit: Gale. 1994.* Complete information on sources of grants, with a useful vocational pathfinder which matches qualifications and interests to scholarships and awards.

HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINORITIES AND WOMEN: ANNOTATED SELECTIONS: 1994. \$3 from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

HOW TO WIN A SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP. *Los Angeles: First Base Sports, Inc. 1995.* Encourages student-athletes, including those who are not "stars," to take the initiative in the recruiting process. Includes chapters on how to assess athletic and academic

skills, how to build a Sports Resume Kit, and how to negotiate scholarship offers successfully. Provides examples of sports resumes, cover letters, and contact letters.

NEED A LIFT? TO EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, CAREERS, LOANS, SCHOLARSHIPS, EMPLOYMENT.

Annual. \$2 from American Legion Education Program, P. O. Box 1050, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

PETERSON'S COLLEGE MONEY HANDBOOK.

Princeton: Peterson's Guides. Annual. Basic tuition and financial aid information through college profiles.

THE SCHOLARSHIP BOOK: THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO PRIVATE-SECTOR SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS, AND LOANS FOR UNDERGRADUATES. *Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall, 1993.* Brief descriptions of scholarships and other types of awards are listed under broad areas of academic study. There is also a "Major and Specific Fields of Study Index" and an index arranged alphabetically by award name.

SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND LOANS: A GUIDE TO EDUCATION-RELATED FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONALS.

Detroit: Gale, 1996, Biennial. This title matches vocational goals with available and appropriate career or discipline-specific funding sources. Descriptive listings are provided for nearly 4,000 scholarships or fellowships. Comprehensive indexes include categories such as "Special Recipient" and "Place of Study." Preface on "Practical Tips on How to Find Financial Aid" provides a good introduction to effective strategies.

10 MINUTE GUIDE TO PAYING FOR COLLEGE. *New York: ARCO, 1996.* Covers basics of financing options, examples of financial aid forms, deadlines, average costs for freshman year. Directed to students and parents.

WORLDWIDE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTORY.

Franklin Lakes, NJ: Career Press, 1995. Arranged by broad fields of study, this book includes descriptive listings of scholarships, fellowships, grants and loans. Indexed by major and by general eligibility requirements.

FINANCIAL AID GLOSSARY

Assets: elements of your and your family's financial worth; includes real estate other than your primary residence, stocks, bonds, cash savings but not a family farm or retirement assets.

California resident: an unmarried student under 18 if your parents have been legal California residents for one year before September 20, 1998; or if you've lived for two years with a legal California resident other than a parent for one year before September 20, 1998; or if a parent is in the U.S. Armed Forces, stationed in California and on active duty when classes begin. All married students, regardless of age, and unmarried students 18 or older, must establish their own residency. (See page 11.)

Citizen/eligible noncitizen: generally, a U.S. citizen, U.S. national (includes natives of American Samoa and Swain's Island), or a U.S. permanent resident who has an unexpired Alien Registration Receipt Card. Other eligible noncitizens are those who have an Arrival-Departure Record from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service showing one of the accepted designations, or a Temporary Resident Card. Citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, and Palau are eligible for Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, and Federal Work-Study only. Also see the FAFSA.

Cost of attendance: the total costs of college for the school year; also called student budget.

Default: failure to make loan payments or otherwise honor a loan's terms; reported to credit bureaus and can influence future credit and ability to receive financial aid.

Deferment: when a borrower is allowed to postpone paying a loan; not for loans in default.

Dependent student: a student under 24 years old who doesn't qualify as an independent student by federal guidelines and whose parental income and asset information is used in calculating his/her expected family contribution. Dependent students must include parental information on the FAFSA to be considered for financial aid.

Direct loans: loans offered under the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, where the federal government is the sole lender.

Expected family contribution (EFC): the portion of your and your family's financial resources that should be available to help pay educational costs.

FAFSA: the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP): consists of the Federal Stafford (subsidized and unsubsidized), PLUS and Consolidation loans; these loans are made by commercial lenders.

Federal processor: the federal government's computer system that analyzes the information on your FAFSA, calculates how much you and your family can pay toward college, and sends out the Student Aid Report; also called central processing service.

Financial aid package: an offer of financial aid, usually a combination of grant, loan, and/or employment opportunities.

Financial Aid Transcript (FAT): a record of federal student aid received.

Financial need: the difference between the expected family contribution and the school's student budget; the amount of aid you're eligible to receive; also known as financial aid eligibility.

Forbearance: when a lender allows the borrower to temporarily postpone repaying the principal, but interest continues to accrue, even on subsidized loans; not for loans in default.

GED: General Educational Development score used to measure academic achievement to the high school graduate level.

GPA: the average of a student's grades, generally where grades have been converted to a 4.0 scale.

Grace period: the short time period after graduation during which the borrower isn't required to begin repaying his or her loan; six months for Stafford loans, nine months for Perkins loans; there is no grace period for PLUS loans.

Guarantee: a promise to pay a debt if the borrower fails; the government or guaranty agency guarantees student loans made by banks.

Guaranty agency: the agency that insures student loans under the Federal Family Education Loan Program against default; in California, FFELP loans are guaranteed by California Student Aid Commission and administered by EDFUND – A Service of the California Student Aid Commission.

Home equity: current home value minus the amount still owed.

Independent college: a nonprofit, private college not run by a government organization.

Independent student: one who is financially self-supporting (also see page 3).

Interest: the fee charged to borrowers by lenders for using loan money.

Need-based: financial aid that depends on your or your family's financial situation; most government sources of financial aid are need-based.

Promissory note: a legally binding contract between a borrower and lender listing all terms and conditions of a student loan.

Satisfactory academic progress: the progress you must maintain toward a degree or certificate to receive financial aid; your school's written standard of satisfactory academic progress.

Scholarship: gift award based on grades or other achievement; not always based on financial need.

Selective Service registration: if required by law, a student must register, or arrange to register, with the Selective Service to receive federal student aid; applies to males born on or after January 1, 1960, who are at least 18 years old, citizens/eligible noncitizens, and not currently on active duty in the Armed Forces.

Student Aid Report (SAR): the report summarizing the information submitted on your FAFSA.

Student budget: the total costs of attending a college; cost of attendance.

Veteran: a student who was engaged in active service in the U.S. Armed Forces and was released under an honorable condition; or a student who will be a veteran by June 30, 1999.

Vocational school: an institution offering a course of study beyond high school to teach specific job skills; also called a trade school.

Important Addresses, Numbers, and Web Sites

California Student Aid Commission

3300 Zinfandel Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

P.O. Box 419026
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9026

916-526-7590

www.csac.ca.gov
www.mapping-your-future.org

EDFUND – A Service of the California Student Aid Commission

3300 Zinfandel Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

P.O. Box 419045
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9045

916-526-7900

DEFAULT PREVENTION
1-800-298-9490

TAX OFFSET INQUIRY LINE
1-800-367-1590

www.edfund.org

The Federal Student Aid Information Center

P.O. Box 84
Washington, D.C. 20044-0084

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION
1-800-4-FED-AID

FAFSA EXPRESS
1-800-801-0576

LOAN ORIGATION CENTER
1-800-557-7392

STUDENT AID REPORT
319-337-5665

www.ed.gov/offices/OPE